

CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A condiment container with a retractable pouring structure, said container comprising

a housing body having at least one side wall, a bottom portion and a top portion,

a pouring structure having a slider structure with a cap, said slider structure being shaped and dimensioned to slidably fit on said top portion so as to be slidable towards and away from said body,

said slider structure forming a dispensing opening for said housing when said slider structure is positioned away from said body.

2. A container as in Claim 1 in which said cap covers substantially the entirety of said top portion of said body when said slider structure is positioned towards said body.

3. A container as in Claim 1 in which said housing side wall has a rotary lower portion mounted to rotate about the longitudinal axis of said housing,

a measuring dispensing mechanism in said housing and a dispensing opening in said bottom portion,

means for drivably coupling said rotary lower portion of said housing to said dispensing mechanism,

whereby pre-determined quantities of a condiment can be dispensed from the bottom of said housing by rotating said lower portion.

4. A container as in Claim 1 in which said slider can be removed entirely from said housing to permit refilling, or dipping or bulk removal of said condiment from said housing.

5. A container as in Claim 1 in which said top portion of said housing has a support structure for supporting said housing in a holding structure with support arms for engagement with said support structure.

6. A container as in Claim 4 in which said slider structure includes a detent structure to releasably hold said slider structure in an extended position without being completely removed from said housing.

7. A container as in Claim 1 in which said housing is substantially cylindrical.

8. A container as in Claim 5 in which said support structure comprises a ridge extending outwardly from said housing body.

9. A container as in Claim 8 in which said ridge is formed by the outwardly-extending edge of said cap.

10. A container as in Claim 1 in which said top portion of said container has a vertical recess shaped to

receive and protect said slider from contact with condiments in said container.

11. A container as in Claim 3 in which said container has an opening in the bottom, and said dispensing mechanism includes a plurality of compartments, each containing a pre-measured quantity of said condiment when full, and a gate with a hole and means for moving each compartment in sequence to release the contents thereof through said opening.

12. A condiment dispenser carousel, said carousel comprising,

a base structure,

said base structure including a base member and a central projection extending upwardly from said base member,

a condiment dispenser holding structure mounted to rotate relative to said base structure,

said projection being releasably secured to said base member with a manually-releasable locking structure,

said projection having at its top a portion of another manually-releasable locking structure adapted to receive and lock to the projection of another carousel whereby two of said carousels can be mounted atop one another and locked together.

13. A condiment dispenser carousel, said carousel comprising

a base structure,  
said base structure including a base member and a  
central projection extending upwardly from said base member,  
a condiment dispensing container holding structure  
rotatably mounted on said central projection,  
said central projection including a plurality of  
vertical struts extending upwardly from said base member to  
adjacent said holding structure and forming said projection.

14. A carousel as in Claim 13 in which said holding  
structure comprises

a hub,  
a plurality of arms extending radially outwardly from  
said hub and dimensioned to receive a plurality of condiment  
dispensing containers and to fit under an edge of said  
containers to support said containers.

15. A carousel as in Claim 13 in which said  
projection is removably secured to said base member by a locking  
structure on the base of said projection,

an upper support module atop said projection and  
having a mating locking structure for receiving the locking  
structure on the base of the projection of another carousel to  
mount two of said carousels atop one another.

16. A carousel as in Claim 13 including a plurality of condiment dispensing containers held by said holding structure,

each of said containers being substantially cylindrical and having an engagement structure near its top for engaging with said holding structure.

17. A carousel as in Claim 13 including a plurality of condiment dispensing containers held by said holding structure,

each of said containers including a retractable pop-up spout at the top for pouring condiments out of said container.

18. A carousel as in Claim 13 including a plurality of condiment dispensing containers held by said holding structure,

each of said containers having a rotary pre-measured quantity dispensing mechanism rotatable by twisting the lower portion of the housing of said container.

19. A carousel as in Claim 13 in which said projection is removably attachable to said base member, and includes a lower ring secured adjacent the lower ends of said struts, and a lock tab structure formed in said lower ring and said base member for releasably locking said ring and said base member together.

20. A carousel as in Claim 13 including a hub member secured to said struts and having a bearing structure for rotatably supporting said holding structure at a location above said base member, said holding structure having a hub rotatably mounted on said bearing structure and support arms extending from said hub.